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Curriculum Vitae

I was born on the 13th of January 1990 in Maribor, Slovenia. I've spent my early childhood in the middle of the hilly parts of Slovenian Styria in Lovrenc na Pohorju and Ruše, not far from Maribor. There I started exploring nature and my surroundings with great interest. The interest in natural phenomena was further fuelled by my grandpa's workshop and my father's interests in everything connected with science and engineering. Including astronomy.

I started high school in Maribor in 2005 and there my interests in physics grew from day to day. I was always more interested in astronomy (as a more interesting part of physics) and this passion grew even more when I attended a couple of astronomy youth summer camps during those years. This culminated by enrolling to the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at University of Ljubljana in 2009, starting my bachelor studies in physics with a focus in astronomy. The bachelor studies at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics were quite rigorous and thorough, but because of that I know they gave me all the knowledge, experience and necessities to successfully tackle any physics and astronomy problem. I obtained a bachelor's degree in May 2013.

Due to the fact that there was no astronomy master study offered in Ljubljana, I have started looking for a programme abroad. More or less randomly I have picked Leiden as a place to apply to and got accepted. I started my masters in September of 2013. During the two years, I have first worked with Prof. Dr. Ignas Snellen and Dr. Jayne Birkby on secondary transits of exoplanets and then on modelling the stellar and gas contributions to the halo model and small scale galaxy-galaxy lensing signal with Prof. Dr. Henk Hoekstra and Dr. Marcello Cacciato, which was also my master's thesis. I have successfully defended it in August of 2015.

In 2015 I started as a PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Konrad Kuijken and Prof. Dr. Henk Hoekstra to work on Kilo Degree Survey and testing the gravity with it. As a member of the KiDS collaboration, I have contributed a halo model, helped with the massive undertaking of reducing the optical data from the VLT Survey Telescope hosting the KiDS, and actively helped with my modelling expertise to the other members of the collaboration. During my studies, I have participated in a winter school in Tonale, Italy and attended conferences at several international venues: Cairns, Australia; Santa Barbara, USA, Kingston, Canada; Leiden, The Netherlands. I have presented my work at different colloquia in Ljubljana, Toronto, Waterloo, Davies, Berkeley, Santa Cruz, Stanford and at regular KiDS collaboration meetings in Leiden and Edinburgh.

This autumn I will continue with my scientific work in the newly established German Centre for Cosmological Lensing headed by Prof. Dr. Catherine Heymans and Prof. Dr. Hendrik Hildebrandt in Bochum, Germany.

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No kids were harmed during the writing of this thesis.